

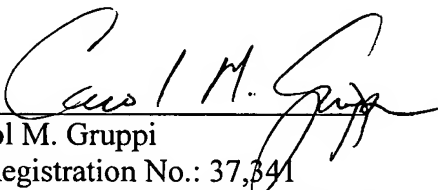
Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, the claims of Group I (claims 1-14) for prosecution on the merits. Applicant submits that it would not be unduly burdensome for the Examiner to search the claims of Groups I with the claims of Group II.

Applicant expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application. Applicant requests examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing (397342000200). However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: November 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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